



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Region VIII
Denver Federal Center, Building 710
P.O. Box 25267
Denver, CO 80225-0267

FEMA

R8-Mitigation

August 7, 2009

Mark S. Plank
Engineering and Environmental Staff
Rural Utilities Programs
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Stop 1571
Washington, DC 20250-1571

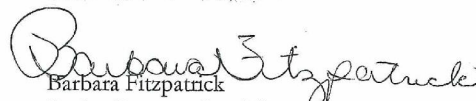
Dear Mr. Plank:

F-001-001
F-001-002

Thank you for your inquiry regarding the proposed San Luis Valley-Calumet-Comanche Transmission Project. FEMA's major concern is that the land is not located in an A Zone. We recommend that you contact the local Floodplain Managers, Ken Vanwarden in Alamosa County at 719-589-3812 or Steven Channel in Huerfano County at 719-738-1220, to receive further guidelines regarding the impact that the purchase might have to the regulations and policies of the National Flood Insurance Program. Considering that floods are the most devastating of all natural disasters in this country, any efforts to reduce the impacts of that hazard is a worthwhile undertaking especially with what Colorado has experienced in the past.

Let me know if I can be of assistance and please feel free to contact me at 303-235-4715. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to assist you in the impending transmission project.

Sincerely,


Barbara Fitzpatrick
Senior Program Specialist
Mitigation Division, FM&I Branch

F-001-001: NEPA Process (In Review)

Your email/letter/comment form has been received and your comment noted. Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, Inc. has requested financial assistance from the USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS), for their anticipated ownership interest in the proposed San Luis Valley – Calumet - Comanche Transmission Project. RUS has determined that funding Tri-State's ownership interest is a federal action requiring analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

RUS is the lead federal agency for NEPA, and will consult with other federal, state, and local agencies, and affiliated tribes as well as adhere to applicable regulations.

Additional information regarding the NEPA process can be found on the RUS project website at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/envIRON.htm>. The Environmental Impact Statement is anticipated to be completed in late 2010 and will be available at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/ea.htm>.

F-001-002: NEPA Process (In Review)

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